

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION USNATO
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

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LONDON PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR SPIERS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO PRESENTATION OF CYPRUS
PROPOSALS

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: APRIL 15-17 TURKISH PRESS REPORTING
PROMINENTLY FEATURED PRESENTATION OF TURKISH CYPRIOT
PROPOSALS TO UNSYG WALDHEIM, TOGETHER WITH RELATED
DEVELOPMENTS. MOST PAPERS ON APRIL 16 CARRIED AS A
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LEAD ITEM THE UN STATEMENT CHARACTERIZING THE PROPOSALS
AS "CONCRETE AND SUBSTANTIVE". ANNOUNCEMENT THAT
WALDHEIM WILL TRAVEL TO NICOSIA ON APRIL 19 ALSO WIDELY
REPORTED WITH EXPECTATION ADDED THAT HE WILL CALL FOR THE
RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AFTER MAKING CONTACTS
THERE. SEVERAL PAPERS NOTE IN PASSING ON APRIL 17 WALDHEIM'S
APPARENT EFFORT TO EMPHASIZE THAT HIS ANNOUNCEMENT ON APRIL

15 SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS A VALUE JUDGMENT ON THE PROPOSALS
AND THAT THERE IS NO ASSURANCE TALKS WILL BEGIN.

2. MILLIYET HEADLINED APRIL 17 A COMMENT BY PROFESSOR
MUMTWZ SOYSAL: "THOSE WHO WANT CHANGES IN WHAT HAS BEEN
PUT FORWARD SHOULD SIT AT THE TABLE." ACCORDING TO
SAMI COHEN IN MILLIYET, PRIMIN ECEVIT ON HIS DEPARTURE FROM
YUGOSLAVIA SAID THAT HE FOUND THE RESULTS OF THE VIENNA
MEETING (APPARENTLY INCLUDING WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT) POSITIVE.

3. THE TURKISH PRESS HAS ALSO REPORTED AND COMMENTED ON
DEVELOPMENTS IN ATHENS AND NICOSIA. SEVERAL ACCOUNTS
EMPHASIZE DIFFERING ATTITUDES IN NICOSIA, AND THE PRESS
PROMINENTLY REPORTS THAT GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES WHO SEE A
CHANCE TO RETURN TO VAROSHA ARE CAUTIONING KYPRIANOU AGAINST
REJECTING THE TURKISH PROPOSALS TOO HASTILY. EDITORIALS
ON APRIL 17 FOCUS ON GREEK AND GREEK CYPRIOT REACTION TO THE
PRESENTATION OF PROPOSALS AND THE CONCERN IN ATHENS AND
NICOSIA THAT FORWARD MOVEMENT MAY HAVE AN UNDESIRE
INFLUENCE ON CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES TOWARD THE EMBARGO.

4. THE ONLY PUBLIC TURKISH CRITICISM OF THE PROPOSALS TO
SURFACE SO FAR HAS APPEARED IN A LOW-KEY WAY IN THE
NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY-LINKED MILLI GAZETE (CIR. 11,000),
WHICH QUESTIONS THE NEED TO PRESENT PROPOSAL AT ALL WHEN THE
CURRENT SITUATION ON CYPRUS IS CONSIDERED IDEAL. END
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UNCLASSIFIED.

5. COMMENT: BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIALS USE: CONTINUING
UPBEAT PRESS REACTION TO THE MEETING BETWEEN UNSYG
WALDHEIM AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN VIENNA
SEEMS TO REFLECT A BROAD CONSENSUS AMONG TURKS THWT THEY
ARE READY, AS ECEVIT SAID IN JANUARY, TO PUT THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM BEHIND THEM. PRESS ACCOUNTS HAVE FOCUSED LESS ON
THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSALS, WHICH ARE KNOWN IN OUTLINE,
THAN ON BARGAINING WITH WALDHEIM TO HAVE THE TALKS
RESTARTED. SOME ELEMENTS OF THE PRESS HAVE PICKED UP
WHAT IS SEEN HERE AS HAIR-SPLITTING IN WALDHEIM'S
CHARACTERIZATION OF THE PROPOSALS, AND THERE IS LIKELY
TO BE DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT AND MISUNDERSTANDING IF PROPOSALS
CALLED "CONCRETE AND SUBSTANTIVE" ARE NOT FOUND ADEQUATE
TO INITIATE A NEW ROUND OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.
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